

March 23, 2003

Dear Neighbors,

You are right. Cell towers don't belong in single-family neighborhoods.

After listening to you, and after reviewing information on this issue, I have decided to introduce legislation banning cell antenna towers in single-family neighborhoods.

I will announce my decision to the news media tomorrow , but I wanted you to know today. I would like to invite you to participate in that announcement. My staff will help with arrangements.

Many of you put in countless hours researching this topic. You have presented me with some compelling arguments. Recent attempts to locate cell equipment on City Light poles has made it clear to me, and many others, that these facilities are an intrusion in our single family areas that will have significant visual impacts. They are not compatible with our single family neighborhoods

I have instructed the Department of Design, Construction and Land Use (DCLU) to prepare legislation to prohibit cell antenna in single family zones, with only rare exceptions where there is no alternative for providing service, as required by federal regulations. I have also requested that DCLU continue its work to develop clear guidelines for mitigating the visual impacts for cell antenna in other zones, to help ensure that they fit in with their surroundings.

I am confident that our telecommunication providers will find locations for their facilities that will allow them to provide great service to the people and businesses of Seattle.

I want to thank the many concerned citizens who have so thoughtfully and sensibly made the case that we can do better than having these facilities in single family neighborhoods.

You spoke, and we listened. I look forward to working with you and the Council to quickly pass this legislation. Congratulations on your work on behalf of Seattle's neighborhoods.

Sincerely

GREG NICKELS  
Mayor of Seattle